
FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 2.2.2010

Wall Street Journal: "Banks Gear Up for a Battle ... The showdown over the future of proprietary trading by U.S. banks is about to begin. One likely fight: defining exactly what proprietary trading is."

Wall Street Journal: "Obama to Roll Out Small-Business Lending Program ... President Barack Obama will roll out a proposed \$30 billion small-business lending program Tuesday, the next in a series of administration efforts to jump-start hiring by the nation's small businesses."

Washington Post: "Rising FHA default rate foreshadows a crush of foreclosures ... The share of borrowers who are falling seriously behind on loans backed by the Federal Housing Administration jumped by more than a third in the past year, foreshadowing a crush of foreclosures that could further buffet an agency vital to the housing market's recovery."

Washington Post: "Obama proposes \$30 billion allocation for small-business loans ... President Obama is set to campaign Tuesday for a plan to allocate \$30 billion to community banks that agree to make loans to small businesses, despite skepticism from lawmakers and some industry officials that the program will work."

NY Times: "Curveball Alters Talks on Wall St. Reform ... President Obama's proposals to tax and curb the activities of Wall Street have thrown an unpredictable element into the debate over financial regulatory reform. They also have touched off an intensive new round of lobbying and raised questions in Congress over whether his plan will add urgency or merely bog things down."

NY Times: "Cloudy Future for Fannie and Freddie ... The Great Bailout is mostly over for the banks. But for those troubled behemoths of the nation's housing bust, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the lifeline from Washington just keeps getting longer."

NY Times: "Bankers in Davos Seek a United Message on Volcker Rule ... The breakthrough did not come until early Saturday morning at a closed-door meeting here in the Swiss Alps."

LATimes: "Banks not imposing further limits on loans ... Most banks aren't erecting new hurdles for people and businesses to get loans, a fresh sign that credit problems are easing."

Bloomberg: "Obama to Outline \$30 Billion in Small Bank Assistance (Update1) ... President Barack Obama will propose providing community banks with \$30 billion to spur lending to small businesses, administration officials said."

Times of London: "If banks can't borrow, they won't be able to fail ... In 2008, as financial titans bit the dust, no US official dared to say the D-word. It was economically incorrect. Even whispering it could trigger more bank runs. So President Bush, Henry Paulson, the Treasury Secretary, and Ben Bernanke, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, kept "depression" at the back of their tongues."

The Hill: "Obama to unveil \$30B in bailout funds for community banks ... President Barack Obama on Tuesday will propose a \$30 billion fund to encourage community banks to lend to small businesses."

